## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :

Taizo MINOWA et al. : Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2003-1686A

Filed November 26, 2003

RACK STRUCTURE FOR BACKLASH-FREE RACK-AND-PINION

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced U.S. patent application please amend the application as follows: